

agent in charge. He went to the agent and asked if the people in the corner rooms had a lease of the rooms. The agent replied that they merely paid from month to month. "And how much might they be paying?" asked Uncle Jimmie. The agent gave the figures. "Well," said Fair, "They would be worth \$100 per month more to me. Please give them notice that you would like the rooms on the first of the month."

The agent replied that he could not do it, that the firm occupying the rooms had been there two years; had paid the rent every month promptly and he could not order them out. "You are right," said Fair, "you are doing just as I would want you to, if you were my agent."

Three days later he met the agent again and said to him, "you will do me a favor if you will notify that firm that they will have to vacate on the first, that the block has been sold." "Sold?" cried the astonished agent, "to whom?"

"O," said Fair, "the owner wanted a little money more than he did the block and I exchanged with him, but you are still the agent, only after the first report to me please."

One day a man said to him: "Mr. Fair, how can I make some money in stock."

"It is easy, my son," was the reply. "Buy them when they are low and sell them when they are high."

Once in the sixties, Mr. Fair, as he got up from the breakfast table one morning, said to his wife: "My Dear, have you any money?" Mrs. Fair replied that she had \$7,000 in the bank. By this time Uncle Jimmie had put on his hat, and said: "Don't mention the matter to a soul, but I think there are a few dollars in Curry," and went out.

Mrs. Fair thought the matter over for a few minutes. Then she said to herself, "Surely there would be no harm in letting my brother know," and crossed the street. Her brother was away, but his wife was home and Mrs. Fair told her.

She had a brother and like Mrs. Fair, her thought was, that there would be no harm in telling her brother. By noon all Ireland in Virginia City was buying Curry and Uncle Jimmie was unloading it upon them.

By the end of the week the stock had dropped out of sight and in the Fair house there was a thunder cloud in every room. As Uncle Jimmie rose from the breakfast table he said to his wife. "My dear, did you not tell me that you had some money in the bank?"

Then the storm broke. "I had \$7,000 and it

is all lost in that old Curry," said Mrs. Fair and she then burst into tears.

"My, my, but I am sorry," said Fair then with a deep sigh, he went into his library and a moment later returned with a check for \$7,000. Handing it to his wife he sighed again and said, "I will help you out this time, my dear, but I fear you are not constituted just right to successfully deal in stocks."

I saw him in San Francisco in the eighties and asked him if he was holding his own among the sharp men of that city. He gave a faroff look and then replied. "O, I keep scuffling around and every few days make a few dollars to put under a pillow of a night."

He made a trip around the world in 1878-79. The two things that seemed to impress him most were the wonderful possibilities of the Valley of the Nile, and a brass pillar 90 feet high in Japan. It was 900 years old and he explained that the knuckles and pulleys for raising and lowering the flag were just as perfect as they could be made by the most accomplished machinist today.

While he was absent Mrs. Fair one day told Mr. Mackay, that if her husband could go to the U. S. Senate it would be a great thing for her children.

That was enough. Mr. Mackay had the machinery all in order for his election when he returned, and he was elected. It was a great misfortune. There was no more happiness in the Fair family.

While he was senator, I went to Washington to help hold the tariff on lead. I went to him and explained that raw sulphur came into this country free, but there was a tariff of \$20 per ton on refined sulphur; how 3 per cent sulphur in Sicily was being refined up to 97 per cent and then shipped in free, which kept the nearly pure sulphur deposits in Utah from the market, because of the cost of transportation and the competition of the Sicily sulphur, and asked him to see the secretary of the treasury and have the duty applied to Sicily sulphur. I had forgotten that he had extensive refining works in San Francisco.

When I had made my plea, he sighed and replied: "I will do everything I can for you, but I have three shiploads of that Sicily sulphur on the sea right now."

He continued to make a great deal of money up to his death, some fifteen years ago, and died very rich.

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